

NRC INSPECTION MANUAL

PART 9900: TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

STS651.TG

STANDARD TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

SECTION 6.5.1, ONSITE COMMITTEE REVIEW OF UNIT OPERATIONS TO DETECT POTENTIAL NUCLEAR SAFETY HAZARDS

A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this guidance is to describe the intent of the rather obscure requirement discussed in item 6.5.1.6.g. of the Standard Technical Specifications that state that the onsite Committee is responsible for the review of unit operations to detect potential nuclear safety hazards.

B. DISCUSSION

The intent of this requirement is that a program and procedure exist to assure that: (1) Routine review of facility operations is accomplished to detect potential safety hazards, (2) responsibility is assigned for the review and resolution of potential problems, and (3) responsibility is assigned for assuring that the review/resolution is completed.

In practice, the initial effort can be accomplished via the morning staff meetings that are scheduled at most operating facilities. One of the purposes of such meetings is to review problems and events that may have occurred at the facility since the previous meeting. When a potential problem is identified, a staff member or his group is normally assigned responsibility for preliminary review and resolution of the problem. This latter action would normally require the preparation of a work request, procedure change or other control document which will identify the problem and document results of the review or corrective action. The site Quality Assurance Program normally includes provisions for routine followup of such documents to assure that they are initiated when appropriate and that the corrective action has been completed.

It is recognized that the morning staff meetings cannot be construed as a meeting of the Plant Review Committee. However, it does serve as a vehicle for identifying to Committee Members potential safety hazards (See Section 4.4 of ANSI N18.7-1976, "Administrative Controls and Quality Assurance for the Operational Phase of Nuclear Power Plants"). Also, in reality, most Committee Members attend morning staff meetings. When actual problems are identified, specific detail relating to the problem and its disposition should be reviewed during a subsequent meeting(s) of the PORC with the results discussed in meeting minutes.

Variations of the morning staff meeting concept can be used to satisfy the requirements of TS 6.5.1 as it relates to the preliminary identification of potential safety hazards.

END